

WARTIME VIOLATION OF ITALIAN-AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, today I wish to speak about a little known, but very dark chapter in American history. While many are familiar with the deplorable treatment of Japanese-Americans and others of Japanese ancestry living in the United States during World War II, there is far less discussion and understanding of what Italian-Americans were forced to endure during that period.

Italian-Americans refer to what happened at this time as "Una Storia Segreta," or "A Secret Story." Beginning before the war and until after Italy's surrender in 1943, Italian-Americans and those of Italian decent living in the United States were made suspects simply because of their country of origin. Like Japanese-Americans, they were subjected to all manner of civil rights violations including curfews, warrantless searches, summary arrests, exclusions, relocations and even internment.

The United States must accept responsibility for its grievous treatment of Italian-Americans during World War II. To this end, Senator TORRICELLI has introduced S. 1909, the Wartime Violation of Italian-American Civil Liberties Act, a bill to require the Justice Department to make a full accounting of the injustices suffered by Italian-Americans during World War II. After the Justice Department completes its report, the President would formally acknowledge these injustices.

I am pleased to cosponsor this overdue legislation. Although it may be painful to revisit and admit to the mistakes made during this time, I hope my colleagues would agree that it is the necessary and right thing to do.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Monday, June 12, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,648,173,825,800.99 (Five trillion, six hundred forty-eight billion, one hundred seventy-three million, eight hundred twenty-five thousand, eight hundred dollars and ninety-nine cents).

Five years ago, June 12, 1995, the Federal debt stood at \$4,901,416,000,000 (Four trillion, nine hundred one billion, four hundred sixteen million).

Ten years ago, June 12, 1990, the Federal debt stood at \$3,120,196,000,000 (Three trillion, one hundred twenty billion, one hundred ninety-six million).

Fifteen years ago, June 12, 1985, the Federal debt stood at \$1,766,703,000,000 (One trillion, seven hundred sixty-six billion, seven hundred three million).

Twenty-five years ago, June 12, 1975, the Federal debt stood at \$527,785,000,000 (Five hundred twenty-seven billion, seven hundred eighty-five million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion—\$5,120,388,825,800.99 (Five trillion, one hundred twenty billion, three hundred

eighty-eight million, eight hundred twenty-five thousand, eight hundred dollars and ninety-nine cents) during the past 25 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

VIRGINIA TECH'S CLASS OF 2000

• Mr. WARNER. Last month, I had the privilege of addressing the graduating class at Virginia Tech University. During the commencement ceremony, three Virginia Tech students, Class President Lauren Esleeck, Graduate Student Representative Timothy Wayne Mays, and Class Treasurer Rush K. Middleton, addressed the graduating class and those in attendance. The speeches given by these three students were so eloquent and so inspiring, that I felt it was important to share them with my colleagues in the United States Senate and with the people of the United States.

To date, I have been able to obtain copies of Ms. Esleeck's speech and Mr. Middleton's speech. It is my pleasure to ask that these speeches be inserted into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

The speeches follow:

SPEECH OF RUSH K. MIDDLETON, CLASS TREASURER

Only July 4th, 1939, Lou Gehrig, recently diagnosed with a terminal illness that would cripple and kill him in the prime of his life, stood before 60,000 adoring fans at Yankee Stadium and proclaimed, "I consider myself the luckiest man on the face of the earth."

How could a man who was so surely facing death profess that he was more blessed than those who sat around him and viewed their own deaths as nothing more than a distant shadow. The answer is quite simple: Lou Gehrig did not measure his fortune by the number of home runs he hit, the number of games he played, or the sum of money he earned. Instead, confronting his own mortality, he calculated the worth of his life by the people that surrounded him. For, unlike the countless tangible rewards and honors that were bestowed upon him, the friendships and relationships he established would not perish with his physical passing.

How does the Class of 2000 want to measure its worth? Do we wish to be defined by the jobs that we accept, the salaries we earn, or the number of promotions we receive? Or would we rather be characterized by the unbreakable bonds that we established with the people around us? I would challenge our Class to pursue the latter. My challenge is this: That we should leave this amazing institution with high expectations of what we will accomplish in our years as alumni. That we remain true to VPI's motto of *Ut Prosim*, "That I may serve," honorably serving our community, our family, our church, and our alma mater. Let us remember that we have but one chance on earth to dedicate ourselves to the task of helping our fellow man. If we give of ourselves, we give the most appreciated gift, and the one gift which no sum of money can possibly buy.

As we pen these final lines in the collegiate chapters of our lives, surrounded by family, friends, faculty, and peers, let us remember that we should strive to define ourselves by these relationships, and not by those material items that will surely fade into our past. If we can accomplish this goal, we can say with confidence, just as Lou Gehrig did, that

we are luckiest people on the face of the earth. God bless each one of you, and God bless Virginia Tech. Thank You.

SPEECH OF LAUREN ESLEECK, CLASS PRESIDENT

Today, we are here in celebration of a truly significant occasion and may I begin by saying, "Congratulations".

The Class of 2000 Motto is "With Honor there is Power, with Character there is Strength." Recently our Class bestowed a gift to Virginia Tech which certainly reflects this theme. The Class of 2000 has chosen to present the university with a new mace, symbolizing the power and strength Virginia Tech has achieved through both her honor and character. During the Founder's Day celebration the Class of 2000 presented Dr. Charles Steger with the new mace immediately following his installation as President of Virginia Tech. Our university's mace has long been a symbol of our tradition of excellence and our Class is fortunate to have contributed a gift to Virginia Tech which will ensure this tradition continues. The new mace, created by Steve Bickley, is resting here on stage. It is a gold-plated contemporary design bearing 3 different seals of the university:

The official university seal affixed to Hokiestone;

The centennial seal from 1972; and

The earliest seal of the university—dating back to 1872.

It also includes 8 spires representing each of the pylons.

Thank you the Class of 2000 for such a tremendous gift.

During this time of excitement and celebration, I have 2 wishes for the Class of 2000. I hope that:

1. We view our Class motto not as a statement, but as a goal;
2. That we be humble.

Again, the Class of 2000 Motto is, "With Honor there is Power, with Character there is Strength."

I encourage you to view our motto not as a statement, but as a goal because I hope that we strive to achieve personal strength and power by developing both our character and honor.

Character. Please allow me to borrow some thoughts on the importance of character from General Charles Krulak of the U.S. Marine Corp. Character is the moral courage that is within each of us. Everyday we have to make decisions. It is through this decision making process that we show those around us the quality of our character. The majority of decisions we make are "no brainers." Deciding whether to eat at West End Market or Owens is not going to test your character. . . . judgment maybe, but not character. The true test of character comes when the stakes are high, when the chips are down, when your gut starts to turn, when you know the decision you are about to make may not be popular, but it is to be made. That's when your true character is exposed.

Success in life has always demanded a depth of character. Those who can reach deep within themselves and draw upon an inner strength, fortified by strong values, always carry the day against those of lesser character.

Honor. Honor is captured by two essential ingredients—honesty and integrity. I hope that we may each find the courage to be not only true to others, but also true to ourselves—a far more difficult challenge. Such uninhibited self-evaluation will provide endless opportunities for personal growth and development.

Perhaps the most important determinant of integrity is work ethic. Hard work and determination have earned us the degrees we

celebrate today. A wise man once said, "It is amazing how many people who work very hard are damn lucky." While hard work may often go unrecognized, it will undoubtedly further one's integrity. Both integrity and honesty are essential to achieving honor. Likewise, both honor and character are essential to achieving power and strength.

My second and final wish is that we may each be humble.

Two of the simplest words in the English language are too often forgotten. Thank you. At a time when it is also appropriate to offer thanks. None of us have walked this journey alone. Whether it's your parents who offered financial support, the coach who served as a father figure, the professor who spent the extra time, the unknown person who created the scholarship you received, the friends who offered unending support, or the organizations which provided the opportunity for personal growth. When someone says "congratulations" we should each respond with "Thank You," thanking those who have allowed us to achieve our goals.

Thank You.●

HONORING MOKAN KIDS NETWORK

● Mr. ASHCROFT. Mr. President, I stand before you today to recognize the accomplishments of the MoKan Kids Network and to congratulate it for winning the 21st Century Award from the Association of America's Public Television Stations. The 21st Century Award is given to public television stations that demonstrate extraordinary involvement in long-range planning, collaboration with others, experimentation with new technologies or the creation of new services for undeserved communities. The MoKan Kids Network, a service of Kansas City Public Television, Smoky Hills Public Television, and 350 Missouri and Kansas school districts, has helped move classroom instruction into the 21st century.

The MoKan Kids Network provides instructional television, online networking and professional development and teacher training for 30,000 teachers in Missouri and Kansas. The network offers teachers more than 700 hours of educational video materials for classroom use and provides teachers with Internet access and curriculum-based web browsing capabilities. MoKan also makes available to teachers special training through its National Teacher Training Institutes, online conferences, and hands-on training in computer labs. MoKan's generous resources have allowed teachers to offer an enriched learning experience to 350,000 elementary and secondary students in Missouri and Kansas.

Mr. President, please join me in congratulating the MoKan Kids Network for being honored with the 21st Century Award. We thank MoKan for its fruitful efforts supporting educational broadcasting, and we hope its example will influence others around the country to establish similar programs.●

RETIREMENT OF DEE LEVIN FROM THE FBI

● Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I would like to pay tribute today to Special

Agent Donald (Dee) Levin on his retirement from the Federal Bureau of Investigation after 29 years of service. In 1967, shortly after graduating from the University of Minnesota, Dee joined the Marine Corps, where he served in Vietnam. Dee began his career with the FBI in 1971, starting out in the Indianapolis and Detroit offices before moving to Minnesota in 1980. Since then, he has worked in the Minneapolis field office as the technical coordinator.

The FBI is a worldwide leader in crime investigation and crime solving. The respect commanded by the FBI is due in large part to the individual agents, like Dee, who serve with honor and integrity in their duty to make the United States a safer place to live.

Dee will be very busy in his retirement. As new grandparents, Dee and his wife Judy look forward to spending time with their family and remaining active in their church, Galilee Lutheran.

I admire Dee's dedication to the FBI and on behalf of all Minnesotans, I thank him for his service.●

DAIRY OF DISTINCTION AWARD

● Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, it gives me great pleasure to pay tribute to the 99 Vermont Farms that have been recognized by the Northeast Dairy Farms Beautification Program and received the Dairy of Distinctions Award.

The Dairy of Distinction Awards are given in New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Vermont. The award was originally designed to help boost confidence in the quality of the milk, therefore increasing the milk sales. This is the fifth year that the honor has been bestowed on Vermont.

The criteria each farm must meet in order to receive this award are extremely stringent. According to the Vermont Department of Agriculture, Food, and Markets, the farms must include: clean and attractively finished buildings; neat landscaping, ditches, roads, and lanes; and well-maintained fences. Also taken into account are the conditions of other aspects of the farm operations such as cleanliness of animals, the barnyard, feed areas and manure management. This is a great feat considering that the average farm in Vermont is 217 acres.

Vermont is fortunate to have so many citizens who hold such pride in the presentation of their farms. I offer my congratulations to all of the farms that received the Dairy of Distinction Award, and may they be a shining example to all of the farms in Vermont. The winners are:

ADDISON COUNTY

Ernest, Earl, and Eugene Audet, Earl, Alan, and Edward Bessette, Herman and Gretta Buzeman, Paul Bolduc, Eric Clifford, Jeffery and Mary Demars, John and Rusty Forgues, Gerardies Gosliga, Dean Jackson, Peter James, Gerrit and Hank Nop, Thomas Pyle, Richard and Jodie Roorda, Tom and Shaina Roorda, Gerald and Judy Sabourin, Raymond Van Der Way, Loren and Gail Wood.

CALENDONIA COUNTY

William and Edith Butler, Paul and Rosemary Gingue, David and Mary Rainey, Bruce and Catherine Roy, Bebo and Lori Webster, Mary Kay and Dennis Wood.

CHITTENDEN COUNTY

June, Charles, and Mark Bean; David and Kate Cadreact; David and Kim Conant; Claude and Gail Lapiere; Donald Maynard; Larry and Julie Reynolds.

ESSEX COUNTY

Hans and Erika Baumann; James Fay; K. Dean and Claudette Hook; William F. and Ursula S. Johnson; Louis and Nancy Lamoureux; Bernard Routhier; Stephen and Carla Russo.

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Kristen Ballard; Robert A. Beaulieu; Scott Bessette; Germain Bourdeau; Robert E. Brooks; Richard and Andrew Brouillette; Ricky Doe and Alan Chagnon; Fournier Family; Wayne and Nancy Fiske; Gary and Olive Gilmond; Patrick Hayes; Paul and Karen Langelier; Robert, David and Sandra Manning; Ronald Marshall; Jacques and Mariel Parent; Philip and Suzanne Parent; Robert and Linda Parent; John Carman and Everett Shonyo; Paul and Linda Stanley; Garry and Eileen Trudell; David Williams.

GRAND ISLE COUNTY

Joyce B. Ladd; Louis E. Sr. and Anna S. Martell; Andrew and Ellen Paradee; Roger and Clair Rainville.

LAMOILLE COUNTY

Frederich B. Boyden; Russell Lanphear.

ORANGE COUNTY

Katherine Burgess; Karen Galayda and Tom Gilbert; Herbert and Beverly Hodge; Alan Howe; Robert and Anne Howe; Linwood Jr. and Gordon Huntington; Paul and Martha Knox; Larry and Sue Martin; Ron Saldi; David P. and Louise B. Silloway; Scott and Fred Smith Steve; Lynn and Alice Wakefield.

ORLEANS COUNTY

Robert and Michelle Columbia; Paul and Nancy Daniels; Bryan and Susan Davis; Andrew and Kathy DuLaBruere; Robert Judd; Roger and Deborah Meunier; Richard and Helen Morin.

RUTLAND COUNTY

Martha Hayward; Neal and Julianne Sharrow; Holly Young.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

David and Susan Childs; Austin C. Cleaves; Everett and Kendall Maynard; Stuart and Margaret Osha; Douglas H. and Sharon A. Turner.

WINDHAM COUNTY

R. Edward Hamilton; Steve and Terry Morse; Alan Smith; Leon and Linda and Roy and Vanessa; Robert Wheeler.

WINDSOR COUNTY

Robert and Elizabeth Kennett Robert A.; and Gail J. Ketchum; James Lewis; Amy M. Richardson.●

THE 60TH BIRTHDAY OF MR. ROBERT GILLETTE

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, on June 16th, 2000, a very dear friend of mine, Mr. Robert Gillette, will celebrate his 60th birthday. I rise today to commemorate this occasion, and to honor a wonderful man who has worked extremely hard to improve living conditions for seniors throughout the State of Michigan.

Mr. Gillette is the president of American House, an organization that owns